

25 August 1959

STAT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. You might want to take this novel about Washington politics, **ADVISE AND CONSENT**, by Allen Drury to read while you are vacationing in Upstate New York. The book is receiving rave notices by the Press as indicated by the review attached herewith by Forrest Davis and one not quite as pro-Drury by Richard Bellman in the **ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH**. Ben Kilday [redacted] in the **WASHINGTON NEWS** tells how the Press Club showed very unusual honor for Drury by giving him a standing ovation when he finished his talk on his book and on his ideas of a reporter in Washington.
3. You will recall that Drury while a reporter on the **WASHINGTON EVENING STAR** contributed, on his own, articles to the **PALO ALTO (California) TIMES** and the **WATERLOO (Iowa) COURIER**. He was critical of CIA in these out-of-town columns. A letter from you to Ben McKelway, Editor of the **STAR**, brought back a reply from McKelway that the questions you raised were the ones that he would have raised had Drury submitted his articles to the **STAR**. Drury wrote to you regretting some of the data but then going on to state from sources on the Hill, he had cause to believe his other statements were accurate. Later he ran another out-of-town column stating that you had tried to get him fired for his criticism of CIA. Later he left the **STAR** and has since been employed by the **NEW YORK TIMES**.
4. Drury in my opinion is prejudiced against the CIA and should not ever cover any CIA story for the **TIMES** or for any other paper on which he is employed because of this bias. He has only one reference in this "novel" to CIA. On page 108 it states:
 "Nearby the director of the FBI was chatting genially with the Secretary of Commerce and his wife, and in a bay window to their left, surrounded by the Ambassador of Lebanon and several miscellaneous princes from Saudi Arabia the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and two of the premier male members of his far-flung crew of motley misfits were passing the time of day."

STANLEY J. GROSAN

Assistant to the Director

cc: DDCI (w/o attach)